

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [3025] "Button" keying
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608221226.A5267-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

OK, NOW we've opened up a can of worms. I built my mouse keyer a few months ago, and BOY was it weird.

I send right-hand, index + 3rd finger = dah and thumb = dit.

Ummm, so how does this relate to the mouse keyer???

I don't know - after days of trying, I gave up. The downward motions were not at all analogous to the side-to-side motions. Anyone have any luck with one of those "Kitano keyers?"

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** 6m 75 grids worked on 8 watts *** HF 138 cfmd * QRP-L #147 ***
** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **
* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w *** 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 *

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: David Shalita <af389@lafn.org>
Subject: [3011] 1 to 250 Mhz Signal Generator -lost ad
Message-ID: <321C5D39.45BC@lafn.org>

Hi,

A few months ago, one either ham-homebrew or qrp-l digests, a company advertised selling a kit for a Signal Generator covering 1 - 250 Mhz frequency range. It was a DDS based product. This is not the unit being sold by S&S Engineering, 1 -16 Mhz, DVFO.

Can some one pass me the info for the 1-250 mhz generator, including email and URL if any?

I would like to hear from someone who is using the S&S DVFO product, any comments about ease of assembling the SMT parts and frequency stability and warm up time are important to me.

Thanks, W6MIK

--

Dave Shalita, af389@lafn.org

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Phil Sikes" <psikes@whidbey.net>
Subject: [3005] Another 40-9er lives
Message-ID: <199608220618.XAA16566@islander.whidbey.net>

Hello all, just finished my 40-9er and had a blast building it. The only problem I had was missing a solder connection that brought power to the audio amp. It was real quiet for a while there let me tell you! Thanks to the designer, kit provider and NORCAL for all things wonderful. Has anyone mentioned the broadcast problem ;-)

Now I am looking for my first contact! CU on the bands.

72 - Phil
Amateur Radio Station
KJ7NS
ARCI 9196:NWQRP 412:QRP-L 528
email: psikes@whidbey.net

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "W. Daniel, 9V1ZV" <daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg>
Subject: [3009] Are you here ORI AC6AN?
Message-ID: <321c62ee.pandora@pandora.lugs.org.sg>

Sorry for the noise gang but Ori (AC6AN) if you're listening, please e-mail me. Your old e-mail address appears to have been shut down. Thanks.

73 de 9V1ZV Daniel

--

Daniel Wee | daniel@pandora.lugs.org.sg
9V1ZV | daniel.wee@f516.n600.z6.fidonet.org

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [3032] Batteries all gone!
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608221459.A5717-01000000@w3eax.umd.edu>

Boy, that was quick. Another hamfest this weekend, maybe look for some more.

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
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From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: David Adams <dave@flowserver.stem.com>
Subject: [3005] Cascade update
Message-ID: <9608220623.AA17237@flowserver.stem.com>

As if you all care...oh well, I build I babble...so do we all!

Anyway, I've been building the 'cade at my usual snails pace and have been trying to do the troubleshooting at each section, but have gotten nothing from the rig...(power-wise), but there is no boad points...

I checked...really...I made sure my power was positive tip...I sprinkled powdered goat horn...I danced...I then pulled my head out of my...uhm...never mind...doesn't matter if your tip is positive, if the bore is too big to contact the center pin of the power receptacle...oops...could not find a loose one of appropriate size, but did find a nine-volt wall wart that worked...whatdya know...power....hmmm....seems to work...go figure...

Anyway, I am nearly done with section three (it's getting late, so I decided sleep was a good idea...I have another HIV viable sort tomorrow and it pays to be fresh!).

Sooooo....tomorrow I become a man! I have built many things, but have avoided it until now....tomorrow...I wrap my first Toroid!!! Wish me luck...I'll see a priest in the morning...

God I love this hobby...

73 de dave, n9uxu

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Dick Schneider <74602.3317@compuserve.com>
Subject: [3045] CQC CONTEST RE-POSTING
Message-ID: <960822235958_74602.3317_EHH83-4@CompuServe.COM>

(SORRY ABOUT THE RE-POSTING BUT LEFT OUT THE DUES!)

SUNDAY, AUG. 25, IS THE COLORADO QRP CLUB'S SUMMER QSO PARTY

****YOU CAN STILL JOIN THE CLUB AND RECEIVE A CQC NUMBER BY E-MAIL****

****ANNUAL DUES: \$10****

(Members receive The Low Down newsletter six times a year)

We will be issuing CQC numbers until 2 hours before contest time (cut off is 1600 zulu) on sunday.

This will enable you to send a CQC number instead of a power level in the contest exchange.

To apply, please send at a minimum callsign, name, mail address, license class, e-mail address, phone number. The club will e-mail you an application for additional information.

We'll e-mail your CQC number on your assurance that the check's in the mail. If your check doesn't turn up, we cancel your number.

If you need contest rules, let us know. Well e-mail them to you.

For special pre-contest numbers, CQC, membership and contest info send e-mail to Dick Schneider/AB0CD at 74602.3317@compuserve.com

.or visit our Web site:

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/mtech/cqc.htm>

The Colorado QRP Club Summer QRP QSO Party

Date/Time: August 25, 1996 1800 - 2359 UTC

Exchange: RS(T), State/Province/Country, First Name, and
Member # if CQC member, power output if not
Example: 579 CO Jim NR 04

72

Dick AB0CD CQC# 155
Secretary CQC

E-mail from: Richard Schneider, 22-Aug-1996

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: CQC@aol.com
Subject: [3052] CQC QSO Party - Sunday
Message-ID: <960822220301_185659786@emout15.mail.aol.com>

****SUNDAY, AUG. 25, IS THE COLORADO QRP CLUB'S SUMMER QSO PARTY****

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****ANNUAL DUES: \$10****

(Members receive The Low Down newsletter six times a year)

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This will enable you to send a CQC number instead of your power level in the contest exchange.

To apply, please send at a minimum callsign, name, mail address, license class, e-mail address, phone number. The club will e-mail you an application for additional information.

We'll e-mail your CQC number on your assurance that the check's in the mail.

If you need contest rules, let us know. We'll e-mail them to you.

For special pre-contest numbers, CQC, membership and contest info send e-mail to Dick Schneider/AB0CD at <74602.3317@compuserve.com> or visit our Web site:

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/mtech/cqc.htm>

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Date/Time: August 25, 1996 1800 - 2359 UTC

Exchange: RS(T), State/Province/Country, First Name, and Member # if CQC member, power output if not.

Example: 579 CO Jim NR 04

New bonus: Work the club call, KBOUCQ (op Al KOFRP), and add 1,000 points to your final score. The club call will be on all bands CW and SSB as well as Novice bands. He will be moving around a lot to put the call on all bands and modes, so good luck tracking him down!

72

Dick ABOCD CQC# 155

Secretary CQC

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996

From: Dick Schneider <74602.3317@CompuServe.COM>

Subject: [3017] CQC SUMMER QSO PARTY

Message-ID: <960822152210_74602.3317_EHH50-2@CompuServe.COM>

****SUNDAY, AUG. 25, IS THE COLORADO QRP CLUB'S SUMMER QSO PARTY****

****YOU CAN STILL JOIN THE CLUB AND RECEIVE A CQC NUMBER BY E-MAIL****

We will be issuing CQC numbers until 2 hours before contest time (cut off is 1600 zulu) on sunday.

This will enable you to send a CQC number instead of a power level in the contest exchange.

To apply, please send at a minimum callsign, name, mail address, license class, e-mail address, phone number. The club will e-mail you an application for additional information.

We'll e-mail your CQC number on your assurance that the check's in the mail. If your check doesn't turn up, we cancel your number.

If you need contest rules, let us know. Well e-mail them to you.

For special pre-contest numbers, CQC, membership and contest info send e-mail to Dick Schneider/AB0CD at 74602.3317@compuserve.com

.or visit our Web site:

<http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/mtech/cqc.htm>

The Colorado QRP Club Summer QRP QSO Party

Date/Time: August 25, 1996 1800 - 2359 UTC

Exchange: RS(T), State/Province/Country, First Name, and
Member # if CQC member, power output if not
Example: 579 CO Jim NR 04

72

Dick AB0CD CQC# 155
Secretary CQC

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Gary Schiltz <gss@ahipc.eds.com>
Subject: [3019] First QRP QSO
Message-ID: <321C8184.63E6@ahipc.eds.com>

I'm so excited that I just have to tell everyone about my first QRP QSO last night. A little background: I built an Oak Hills QRP Explorer II a couple of months ago, and because of QRM and very rusty CW skills, never completed a QSO with it. In the meantime, I replaced my old Kenwood TS 520S with a Yaesu FT-890 (my first full size rig newer than 20 years old) and started brushing up on CW. The night before last, I had my first CW QSO (QRO) in years on the 890. With a CW QSO finally under my belt, I hooked the Explorer up last night and called CQ de N8RUY/QRP on 7040. Before long, Mike, N1HFX/QRP came back to me from Plainfield, CT. Mike was running 2 watts from a Norcal 40A! I couldn't believe that my first QRP QSO was with another QRP station, and couldn't believe how strong a signal he had running QRP (at least 559). We chatted for about half an hour before saying '73. BTW, I asked if he was on the QRP-L, but he said no, he doesn't spend much time on the internet.

de N8RUY
Gary Schiltz
Bloomfield Hills, MI

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [3029] FS: thin QRP batteries
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608221242.A5438-01000000@w3eax.umd.edu>

I was at a hamfest a few weeks ago and purchased 10 (yes, ten) Yuasa gel cells, I believe them to have the NP-2-12 label, but don't quote me on that, as I'm not at home.

They're pulls from medical equip., and all are holding a decent charge, or were the last time I checked (I picked the best of the bunch).

Now the neat part:

they're 2 amp-hours!
they're about 7" x 4" x 3/4" or so!
they look like they'll accept spade lugs!

I'm keeping a few for myself; Mouser and Digi-Key ask \$20+ apiece for new ones. Asking \$5.00 each plus shipping.

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** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **
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From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: KFGlynn@aol.com
Subject: [3034] Gate 2
Message-ID: <960822161041_185396446@emout16.mail.aol.com>

Hi gang,

Does anyone know of a list (or site other than FTP.FCC.GOV) that lists available callsigns for Gate 2?

Tnx for info.

73 Kevin KB2TE0

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Bob Hirsch" <bobh@p3.net>
Subject: [3013] gate 2 !!
Message-ID: <199608221420.KAA07948@p3.net>

Hey Everybody -- Gate 2 opens Sept 23 !

FCC PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 22, 1996

AMATEUR STATION VANITY CALL SIGN SYSTEM
FILING GATE 2 OPENS SEPTEMBER 23, 1996

Amateur operators who meet the following eligibility standards may request a vanity call sign on or after September 23, 1996. File your request on FCC Form 610-V. Legibility is critical! If the information on your application is not legible, you could experience a delay in processing, lose the opportunity to obtain a requested call sign or even obtain a call sign different from what you want. You must hold an unexpired amateur operator/primary station license grant of the proper operator class, as described below, to request a vanity call sign for your primary station. To request a vanity call sign for a club station, you must also hold an unexpired club station license grant listing you as the license trustee. Refer to the licensee data base to verify that the call sign you are requesting is not already assigned. A call sign is normally assignable two years following license expiration, surrender, revocation, set aside, cancellation, void ab initio, or death of the grantee. See Fact Sheet PR5000 Number 206-V AMATEUR STATION VANITY CALL SIGN SYSTEM. For explanations of Groups A, B, C and D and the geographic Regions, see Fact Sheet PR5000 Number 206-S, AMATEUR STATION SEQUENTIAL CALL SIGN SYSTEM.

NOTE: A separate Public Notice will be released providing guidelines for the implementation of electronic filing procedures for FCC Form 610-V.

REQUEST BY LIST (PRIMARY OR CLUB STATION) - Provide a list of up to 25 call signs in the order of your preference. The first assignable call sign on your list will be assigned to your station. When so requesting for your primary or club station:

- * The call sign must have been unassigned for at least two years.

- * If you are an Amateur Extra Class operator, each call sign must be in Group A, B, C or D.

NOTE: Advanced, General, Technician Plus, Technician, and Novice Class operators are not yet eligible to request by list. Advanced Class operators will be eligible at Gate 3. Others will be eligible at Gate 4.

- * Each call sign must be one designated for the Region of your mailing address as follows:

- ** One of the contiguous 48 states - Regions 1 to 10.
- ** Alaska - Regions 1 to 11.
- ** American Samoa - Regions 1 to 10, or Region 13 having numeral 8.
- ** Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands - Regions 1 to 10, or Region 13 having numeral 0.

- ** Guam - Regions 1 to 10, or Region 13 having numeral 2.
- ** Hawaii - Regions 1 to 10, or Region 13 having numeral 6 or 7.
- ** Puerto Rico - Regions 1 to 10, or Region 12 having numeral 3 or 4.
- ** Virgin Islands - Regions 1 to 10, or Region 12 having numeral 2.

REQUEST BY FORMER HOLDER (PRIMARY STATION) - Opened May 31, 1996.

For your primary station, you may request a call sign that was previously assigned to your primary, secondary, repeater, auxiliary link, control, or space station. When so requesting for your primary station:

* You may request your former call sign even though it has been unassigned for less than two years. The two year requirement does not apply to an otherwise eligible primary station if the call sign was previously assigned to a station of the requestor.

* You do not have to hold a class of operator license required for the Group (A, B, C, or D) for the call sign requested. A call sign request by former holder may be from any Group in the sequential system.

* Your mailing address does not have to be in the Region designated in the sequential system for the call sign requested. A call sign requested by former a holder may be in any Region.

REQUEST BY CLOSE RELATIVE OF FORMER HOLDER NOW DECEASED

(PRIMARY STATION) - Opened May 31, 1996.

For your primary station, you may request a call sign that was previously assigned to the primary, secondary, repeater, auxiliary link, control, or space station of your now-deceased spouse, child, grandchild, stepchild, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or in-law. When so requesting for your primary station:

* You may request the former call sign of a close relative now deceased even though it has been unassigned for less than two years. Upon the death of the holder, a call sign is assignable immediately to an otherwise eligible primary station of a close relative.

* You must be an Amateur Extra Class operator to request a Group A call sign.

* You must be an Amateur Extra or Advanced Class operator to request a Group B call sign.

* You must be an Amateur Extra, Advanced, General, Technician Plus, or Technician Class operator to request a Group C call sign.

* You must be an Amateur Extra, Advanced, General, Technician Plus,

Technician or Novice class operator to request a Group D call sign.

- * Your mailing address does not have to be in the Region designated in the sequential system for the call sign requested. A call sign requested by a close relative of former holder now deceased may be in any Region.

- * You must show your relationship to the deceased person exactly as listed in the instruction, i.e., child, niece or in-law.

- * The license grant of the former holder now deceased must have been deleted from the licensee database. That is accomplished by a relative of the deceased submitting a signed request to have the license grant cancelled accompanied by a copy of an obituary or death certificate. The request for cancellation must be submitted to the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 173257245 prior to filing the application for a vanity call sign.

REQUEST BY FORMER HOLDER (CLUB STATION) - Opened May 31, 1996.

For the club station for which you are the license trustee, you may request a call sign that was previously assigned to that station. When so requesting for a club station:

- * You may request your club station's former call sign even though it has been unassigned for less than two years. The two year requirement does not apply to an otherwise eligible club station if the call sign was previously assigned to the club station for which the requestor is the license trustee.

- * You do not have to hold a class of operator license required for the Group (A, B, C, or D) for the call sign requested. A call sign request by former holder may be from any Group in the sequential system.

- * Your mailing address does not have to be in the Region designated in the sequential system for the call sign requested. A call sign requested by a former holder may be in any Region.

REQUEST IN MEMORIAM (CLUB STATION) - Opened July 22, 1996.

If you are the license trustee for your club station, you may request in memoriam for your club station the call sign previously shown on the primary, secondary, repeater, auxiliary link, control, or space station license of a deceased person who was a member of the club. When so requesting in memoriam for your club station:

- * The club must have held a club station license grant on March 24, 1995, or you must be an Amateur Extra Class operator.

- * You may request the call sign even though it has been less than two years following death of the club member. Upon the death of the holder, the call

sign is assignable immediately to an otherwise eligible club station.

* You must have in your station records a written statement (do not send to FCC unless requested) from a spouse, child, grandchild, stepchild, parent, grandparent, stepparent, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, or in-law of the deceased confirming the deceased person's association with the club and showing consent of the relative to your request.

* You must be an Amateur Extra Class operator to request a Group A call sign.

* You must be an Amateur Extra or Advanced Class operator to request a Group B call sign.

* You must be an Amateur Extra, Advanced, General, Technician Plus, or Technician Class operator to request a Group C or D call sign.

* Your mailing address does not have to be in the Region designated in the sequential system for the call sign requested. A call sign requested in memoriam may be in any Region.

* You must enter the relationship to the deceased person giving consent exactly as listed in the instruction, i.e., child, niece or inlaw.

* The license grant of the former holder now deceased must have been deleted from the licensee database. That is accomplished by a relative of the deceased submitting a signed request to have the license grant cancelled accompanied by a copy of an obituary or death certificate. The request for cancellation must be submitted to the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245 prior to filing the application for a vanity call sign.

A \$30.00 fee is required with your FCC Form 610-V application. Payment of fees may be made by check (payable to "FCC"), bank draft, money order or credit card. If paying by credit card, you must also complete and submit FCC Form 159 with your FCC Form 610V. Do not send cash.

Send your application package to:

Federal Communications Commission
Amateur Vanity Call Sign
Request P.O. Box 358924
Pittsburgh, PA 15251-5924

If you do not qualify under the forementioned eligibility standards, your application will be dismissed. A future public notice will announce Gate 3 which will have expanded eligibility standards.

For further information, contact the Consumer Assistance Branch at
1-800-322-1117.

-FCC-

=====
73 de Bob, AA30N

No Code, No HF....Know Code, Know HF!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [3026] ID QRP KEY
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.960822132718.9501A-100000@u1.abs.net>

Mike,

The QRP Key with the 6B "Stamped into the Base is a part from a Western Electric 35D or F Apparatus Test Set. It was a very expensive test set commonly used throughout the "Bell System" when most Telephone Central Offices used Electro-Mechanical Relay Switching. It was used for Current flow testing and adjustment of relays. The Test box has Four Keys on it for use during the test/adjustment process. They are numbered 1 thru 4 on the key knob. There are versions made by other manufacturers in various parts of the country. The piece of test gear is often found on the surplus market, However it still commands a fairly big price tag. I found one at Dayton one year and "Stole it" for \$ 5.00 ! It had seen better days, but the Keys were perfect. I kept TWO, # 1 & # 2, and gave one to John Collins and one to Mike Czuhajewski. I then sold the rest of the box as a table conversation piece for \$ 5.00 for the benefit of the club. (ARCI). Those little keys can be seen in the Dave Ingram book, Keys!, Keys!, Keys! Under the heading of Special Keys, Also known as the "Railroad Detective Key" (Sounds much more mysterious than AT&T 6B Telegraph Key :^)).

If you want more info on keys, try email to K5RW, Neal McEwen at nmcewen@metro.net.com I don't have his URL handy, but he will give it to you. He is a Serious Key Collector/Historian.

QRP DX TU (C) 1986 G.Danny Gingell, K3TKS@abs.net
Maryland Milliwatt Club QRP Reference Library, (301)572-6789

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [3031] JOIN QRP ARCI New ADDRESS
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.960822152849.12542A-100000@u1.abs.net>

Wed, 21 Aug 1996 GREGOIRE@ENDOR.COM (ERNEST GREGOIRE) Wrote:

Subject: [2987] ARCI/SOLAR PWR. ARTICLE

Hello Danny, and the Gang,

G.Danny Gingell, K3TKS, wrote and asked for an article on solar power for the ARCI newsletter. I would just love to contribute Danny, but you see I tried to join up with the outfit in May. My check has not been used, and I have not heard a single thing about my membership yet.

I did read that the dues have gone up and I will gladly pay the new price, but I want to hear something from somebody sometime!

de AA1IK
Ernie

>From K3TKS@abs.net

RE: Join QRP ARCI or What to do about no answer.

Ernie,

While I am not the person to contact about membership problems, I can give you some information that should take care of it. First of all Mike Bryce, WB8VGE is the QRP A.R.C.I. Membership Chairman. He is the ONLY ONE who can FIX the problem! He has recently moved, The New Address for contacting him in regard to QRP A.R.C.I. Membership is: Mike Bryce, WB8VGE, QRP A.R.C.I. Membership, P.O. BOX 508, Massillon, OH 44648-00508. You can also try him at 73357.222@Compuserve.com

QRP DX TU (C) 1986 G.Danny Gingell, K3TKS@.abs.net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Ron Giuntini <rong@slip.net>
Subject: [3046] KC-2 Arrived

Message-ID: <E0utk43-0007Yr-00@mouse.slip.net>

Thanks to all concerned for the kitting and distribution of the KC-2. Mine arrived yesterday. I will be putting mine in my Explorer II when I build the radio. So many things stacked up will mean my KC-2 will be patiently waiting a few weeks.....I'll be interested in any comments from anybody that will or has already installed one in an Explorer II...

Ron KB6GK
NorCal #1718
San Francisco

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Subject: [3040] meeting
Message-ID: <52BFE7341E@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Anyone from this list going to make Peoria next month for the ARRL convention? I, myself, hope to be there Saturday.

72 de WB9NLZ

Timothy A. Stabler, Ph.D.
Department of Biology
Indiana University Northwest
Gary, IN 46408

(219)980-6718
FAX: (219)980-7125

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Ken Newman N2CQ <103464.1355@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [3020] MFJ 90's Newsletter - QTTF
Message-ID: <960822154645_103464.1355_IHI45-1@CompuServe.COM>

> David said in pg 2 of the July Newsletter:
>... logs were submitted to me from the QRP to the Field contest.
>... A Vibroplex dealera little discount on a couple of Vibroplex
>trinkets. So as the official 20M band winne, I am sending Ken a real
>Vibroplex foam rubber "Coozy" to keep his drinks cold while he is doing
> QRP in the field. Thanks for submitting the log, Ken.

Hi David and Qrppers,
Thanks much for the "Coozy". It is right up front in the shack, ready to

handle any 807's etc. that becomes available. I will definately supply the necessary supplies to be sure "Coozy" does its job.

Thanks for the fine edition of the 90's Newsletter and looking foreward to more of the same interesting reading.

73/72 de Ken - N2CQ

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: kd7s@psnw.com (Bill Jones)
Subject: [3054] Need Advice on Drillpress Speed
Message-ID: <199608230238.TAA15745@sierra.psnw.com>

I just negotiated a trade of some surplus shop equipment and ended up with a beautiful 5-speed drillpress. According to a plate welded to the front, the speeds range from 650 to 3100 r.p.m. My question is, what is the best speed for drilling aluminum panels, ABS plastic sheet and PC board stock? I have a set of high quality Sears Crafstman drill bits (according to the label on the front of the box, "the best they sell") ranging from 1/16" to 1/2". Do we have any machinists in the group who can guide me here?

=====
Bill Jones - KD7S <><
Sanger, California
Reply to kd7s@psnw.com
=====

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Scott Rosenfeld NF3I <ham@w3eax.umd.edu>
Subject: [3021] Nobody taught me keyers
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608221123.C5114-0100000@w3eax.umd.edu>

I <<NEVER>> had a straight key until I was 25 (licensed since age 15). I'm now 27. I had always used a Vibro-keyer sidesaddle, pushing with the index finger on my right hand in order to generate elements.

Why? The unit pressed up against the 37-lb. TS-520s, making a good, stable backboard for the unit.

When I got the keyer, it's been 100% right hand, thumb = dit, index = dah.

I feel sorry for left-handed keyers who like to operate mobile (unless they have right-drive cars).

* Scott Rosenfeld NF3I Burtonsville, MD FM19mc QRV 80-10/6/2/440 *
*** 6m 75 grids worked on 8 watts *** HF 138 cfmd * QRP-L #147 ***
** QRP ARCI #9054 ** DXCC/WAS/WAC *** 100% dipole powered HF/6m **
* 301-549-1022 h / 301-982-1015 w *** 145.490- 147.225+ PL 156.7 *

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: billt@juno.com (Bill Todd)
Subject: [3004] NW QRP E-Mail Update
Message-ID: <19960822.000855.7527.0.billt@juno.com>

Hello folks -

Well, it seems like I learn something new every day.

Got a note from Steve, N2MNN about using the "Courier New" type font when I put together the E-Mail newsletter. It seems that the Courier font (together with a more narrow right margin) keeps the articles from succumbing to the dreaded "dangling single word"-syndrome that seems to happen quite a bit in prepared postings.

To date we have 21 total E-Mail NW QRP Club Members - 5 of which are current members who have switched from the printed newsletter to the E-Mail version.

Perhaps, as the E-Mail newsletter idea grows, we will give an option to receive the E-Mail newsletter in other than ASCII text. I understand that there is a program "out there" like Acrobat? which allows the user to send desktop publishing-like pages that can be reassembled on the other end. If this is so, I'd appreciate some direction on this from the QRP-List.

Thanks & 72/73
Bill - N7MFB
NW QRP Club

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: wa5whn@ix.netcom.com (Jay Miller)
Subject: [3055] QRP AField, Sept. 21, 1996
Message-ID: <199608230252.TAA11593@dfw-ix10.ix.netcom.com>

Dennis, et al,

Yes, we are still keeping with the theme. We will have photos to

prove it. (Lighthouses & Towers is the suggested theme for Sept. 21, 1996, New England QRP Club's "QRP AField").

Chet Bowles, AA1EX, bowles@cmf.org has the rules, on line, for this event.

OK, who else is heading out for this event ?

BTW, great article in the recent Colorado QRP Club Journal, about AE0Q/7 (real snow ?) in Wyoming, during the NorCal "QRP To The Field" event, last April 27th.

Talk to all of You, Sept. 21st.

72...Jay, WA5WHN

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: lve1@inel.gov (Larry V East)
Subject: [3038] Removing a surface mount CPU?
Message-ID: <2.2.16.19960822215400.1c6f6100@eloi>

Anyone have any words of wisdom on removing a surface mount i486 CPU without mutilating the PC board? (Other than like mating porcupines -- veeeerry caaaarefuully... :-)

I went to replace my 486SX with a 486DX2 last night and discovered that the !&\$#@ thing was soldered to the board! I have a surface mount socket (an "evaluation" unit from Amp) on the way (hopefully) so my immediate problem is to get the old CPU off the board. Then I have to solder the socket in -- all 168 connections!! (That's 42 leads per side...)

What's this got to do with QRP? Weelllll, wouldn't you consider a 50MHz 486 to be "low power" these days??

72, Larry W1HUE/7

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: frank paxton iii <paxton@sound.net>
Subject: [3024] report: village radio- AM QRP - \$ 18
Message-ID: <321C9612.14A3@sound.net>

hi !

some of you may have seen a note reporting the availability of Viet Nam era 'qrp' AM trancivers made by Hallicrafters for the US Military... model HT-1E (village radio). these 'giant' handi talkies (2 1/4" x 12") are available for \$18 plus ups postage from Kal-Tech - 200 SW 20th Street - ft. lauderdale,fla. 33315 - phone: (954)522-5811. no credit cards. mail in check or money order only.

i bought 5 units and they came promptly and are as advertised. they come WITHOUT crystals. documentation is included. all is as it should be.

it appears that these units may be put on 10m or 6m. if there is anyone in the qrp group with info on this please advise ! my choice is to go to 6 meters. this requires 2 xtals. the RX xtal is 14.4 Mhz BELOW the desired freq, the TX is the SAME as desired freq. these radios look like a LOT of fun. what is needed is a GROUP CRYSTAL BUY. the problem is that i'm NOT SURE if the 6 meter conversion will work. anyone knowing if there is an AM calling freq on 6m please advise. i will get crystals and if they work a GROUP CRYSTAL BUY may be in order...

frank. ng0n.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996

From: Duane Anderson <usnret@cris.com>

Subject: [3056] SW-30 kit

Message-ID: <321D1D85.202A@concentric.net>

Does anyone know if Dave Benson is on this list or does anyone have his email address. I would like to correspond with him regarding an SW-30 kit I built some time back.

Thanks and 72,

Duane, KJ7H0

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996

From: Bob Marsh <bmarsh@hicom.net>

Subject: [3008] Thumb + Dit Vs Thumb = Dah

Message-ID: <321C5FD9.2B81@hicom.net>

Hi all,

Someone in a recent post on Iambic keyers made an interesting comment. He referred to using the thumb for the "dah". When I got my first keyer, I wired the paddles up that way, and have been doing it like that ever since. The guys in my radio club are constantly busting me about "reverse paddles"

(nyuk, nyuk!) I even built an adaptor cable to reverse the paddles in the club station!

Apparently, the "correct" way is for the thumb to do the "dits" and the finger the "dahs". (this was also in the documentation with the paddles which I read about a year after I wired the sucker up!)

Just out of curiosity, maybe we should do a survey to see how others do it. Maybe it'll give me so ammo to use on some of the bozo's in the club! (Bob, the "reverse keying guy" - indeed!)

Disclaimer: This is intended as a lighthearted post, for entertainment purposes only. For the PC conscious "thumb-dah" challenged readers, It's not MY problem if you do things backwards!

72/73 de Bob/KB2SGM
(Are we having fun yet?)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Floyd Soo, KF8AT" <hires@rust.net>
Subject: [3020] Thumb = dit vs Thumb = Dah
Message-ID: <321CB35B.131B@rust.net>

Hi yall,

Just wanted to let Bob Marsh know that he is not the only "wierd" one out there in CW land! I originally learned how to send CW with a straight key back in the mid-60s, when there wasn't much in the way of electronic keyers. I learned at that time to use my right hand to send. When I finally decided to learn how to use a bug and iambic paddles, it was natural that I used my right hand.

After years of using my right hand to send CW, I decided to do something a little different. I noticed that I was always swapping paddles and pencil in my right hand, so I decided to learn how to send CW with my left hand! This was totally premeditated. I thought about the CW ops that told me I had to reverse the paddles in order to send CW "correctly" with my left hand. I decided not to do that. I found that a huge majority of paddles and bugs are set up for right hand use. So I did it "wrong" I taught myself how to send CW on a straight key with my left hand first. Then, I learned how to send CW with my left hand on rught handed bugs and paddles! I have done it that way now for about 6 years and don't really know if I could send correctly right handed on paddles!

Straight key is fine with either hand, but I am more comfortable sending with my left hand on bugs and paddles now! Maybe it would make a difference if I were to attmpt to send at 50 WPM, but in the 30s, I

don't see it as a disadvantage.

I wonder if anybody else is wierd like Bob and I??

All in good fun,
Floyd, KF8AT
QRP-L #392

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: w0rw@kktv.com
Subject: [3044] WANTED: SINGLE LEVER BENCHER
Message-ID: <TCPSMTP.16.8.22.-14.0.44.2240783031.1816512@kktv.com>

i need a single lever bencher (ST-1 or ST-2), i have an iambic BY-1 if
you want to trade. Paul w0rw

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Bob Lombardi <blombard@iu.net>
Subject: [3048] Re: 78 Series Regulators
Message-ID: <199608230111.VAA12724@bb.iu.net>

At 12:10 AM 8/22/96 EDT, you wrote:

>
>Date: Wed, 21 Aug 1996 20:51:57 -0500
>From: "Dan Reynolds" <bcdlr@midwest.net>
>To: "qrp-L Reflector" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
>Subject: [2997] 78xx VR's max. voltage

>
>What is the max. voltage(s) for 7800 series voltage regulators, e.g. 7805
>and 7812? That is the voltage into the regulator.....
>
>Dan Reynolds - Technology Coordinator
>Lutheran School Association of Decatur, IL
>ham radio: KB9JLO packet: KB9JLO@N9KGZ.#CIL.IL.USA.NOAM
>web: <http://www.midwest.net/orgs/lsa/>
>email: bcdlr@midwest.net or lsa@midwest.net
>
>

That's hard to answer because it depends on the operating conditions;

current being drawn by the load, and how good the heatsink is. Let me throw some numbers around (I just went through this at work last week).

The power dissipated in the _regulator_ is the current delivered to the load times the voltage drop. For example, the load takes 100 mA and you're putting 12 V into a 7805. The power in the regulator is $(12V-5V)*(100mA)$ or 700 mW. If you were running the regulator off 24 V, it would be $(24-5)*(0.1)$ or 1.9 W. Is that too much? (Either of them?) That depends on the heat sink. If you know the thermal resistance of the heat sink (in degrees C/Watt) you can figure the junction temperature of the chip by multiplying the power (.7 or 1.9) times that number. Why do you care about such esoteric junk? Because if the junction temperature gets above 150C, the regulator shuts down.

If you had a really good heat sink with lots of air flow over it, and a silicon rubber pad between the regulator and heat sink (or a good layer of that white heat sink goop), the thermal resistance is about 6 or 7 deg C per W. That means 1.9W is safe, even in a hot box. You'll notice that those regulators are rated for something like 2 Amps. If you run those calculations, I think you'll find that you can't run the 5 V regulator off 24 V and supply 2 Amps! If you just mount the regulator to a piece of PC board, you'll put that thermal resistance up quite a bit. (rough guess .. 15 or 20 deg C/W)

All that aside, there _is_ also a maximum differential (input to output) voltage that these regulators want to see. I think it's around 40V, but you basically can't supply any current at that voltage.

Hope this helps.

73,
Bob

(by day, mild mannered RF engineer for the greatest radio company in history... by night...)

Bob Lombardi	WB4EHS in Melbourne, FL	o	\---\---\
blombard@iu.net	or blombard@freenet.fsu.edu	/\	
http://www.freenet.tlh.fl.us/~blombard		_ \ 7	Bicycling
telescope making, optics, astronomy, piano, SW and		(*)/(*)	ham radio

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Dana H. Myers" <myers@bigboy.West.Sun.COM>

Subject: [3043] Re: 78xx VR's max. voltage
Message-ID: <Roam.3.0.840755137.11782.myers@bigboy>

> What is the max. voltage(s) for 7800 series voltage regulators, e.g. 7805
> and 7812? That is the voltage into the regulator.....

This is probably interesting to the entire list. The generale rule of thumb for the 78xx regulators is a max Vin of 40V. Don't overlook that the device power dissipation is $(V_{in}-V_{out}) \times I_{out}$. So, a 7805 with a Vin of 40V, a Vout of 5V and a load current of 1A will be dissipating 35W. Most of these devices will shutdown as they heat up, so you'd need a pretty healthy heatsink for the little regulator.

To minimize the device dissipation, it makes sense to use the lowest practical Vin - the minimum input should be 2V greater than the output for the standard 78xx, and there are some low-dropout regulators out there that will regulate with a few hundred millivolts of differential. For QRP work from batteries, these may be attractive ;-).

Dana KK6JQ
Dana@Source.Net

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Paul Harden <pharden@aoc.nrao.edu>
Subject: [3012] Re: A Better Audio Filter for QRP Rigs
Message-ID: <199608221437.IAA07850@zia.aoc.nrao.edu>

EmTech (W6EMT) also has a CW filter kit for \$20-25 range. It is about a 2-inch square PCB with all the parts and can be wired into any rig. It is the standard 2-op amp, multiple feedback circuit, but works quite well. I won't call it a "better" CW filter, but certainly much better if you're using no filtering at all following the product detector.

For those of you using no CW audio filtering ... you just don't know what you're missing.

Standard disclaimer, don't own stock in Roy's company, but have built and installed one of his filters into an NW-40 rig and measured it for a CQC "Low Down" article few issues back.

72, Paul NA5N

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996

From: Phil Wheeler <#pcw12@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [3050] Re: A Better Audio Filter for QRP Rigs
Message-ID: <321D0DE3.37E3@ix.netcom.com>

I'm very partial to the OHR SCAF filter. A bit of a cadillac approach but really superb. And I can use it with any of several rigs.

phil w7uox

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: George Gingell <k3tk@u1.abs.net>
Subject: [3007] Re: Antenna comparisons
Message-ID: <Pine.BSI.3.93.960822080824.3389A-100000@u1.abs.net>

Thanks for the comments, I will pass them along to qrp-l for you. I am sure there will be others interested in hearing about some actual antenna comparisons. I don't know much about the theory, I just look em up in the book and build em.:^) What ever it takes. So far, my money is on the loop. I have a 40 meter vertical loop, aka Doug DeMaw "Classic Loop" the Rectangle that is about 35-40 feet off the ground at the top. I think the sides ar about 26 feet and the bottom is 10-12 feet off the ground. It is fed with RG8X and a Q section of RG11. It is one of the most reliable antennas that I have ever built. The other loop that I have is the 80 Meter horizontal A.O.G. ("Act of GOD") Loop at 45 feet and fed with Rg-59 Equiv. Computer LAN Cable.. I have a few Dipoles left over from the previous antenna farm. I think I counted 9 Coax Cables going out the RF pipe last week. :^) A few no longer have anything on the end of them. I replaced three with fresh coax for the Fall Antenna Party. :^) TKS again for the comments Don. I will be looking forward to hearing more about your Kites and Antennas.

QRP DX TU (C) 1986 G.Danny Gingell, K3TKS@.abs.net

On Wed, 21 Aug 1996 DLShips@aol.com wrote:

> Dan,
>
> This may be of some interest to some of the guys....if you think so, feel
> free to pass it along. I still haven't re connected to the QRP-L (List) but
> intend to do so when I get back from a trip I'm taking (starting) tomorrow.
>
> Here's some antenna comparison info.
>
> I've been using a ground mounted, quarter wave vertical on 30 meters and
> cosistantly work into Europe (when the band is open) with a couple of watts.

> I'm in a very good radio location, two blocks off the beach. There's 8
> radials at the base of the vertical and the soil is sandy and damp and I have
> an 8 ft. ground rod connected to the base. Impedence at the base of the
> vertical is 47ohms and I'm feeding it with 1/2 wave of coax.

>

> The storm removed a 20 meter square loop I had between two pine trees so I
> replaced it with a 30 meter loop, perfectly square and vertical, fed in a
> lower corner with 450 ohm ladder line. This loop is 25 ft. on all sides and
> is about 12 ft. above the ground at the bottom and 37 ft. at the top. It's
> broadside to N. & S.

>

> My station is set up with switching capabilities that allow me to quickly
> switch between 6 radios and 8 antennas, so I frequently compare the same
> signals on different antennas. I have two quarter wave 40 meter verticals (a
> quarter wave apart but not yet used together) , a pair of (90 degree phased)
> 20 meter verticals, a 20 meter half square (oriented such to compare with the
> 20 meter verticals), a long wire, and finally a 160 meter center fed low
> flying wire (max height is 25 ft above the ground. And a couple other antennas
> that serve my test bench

>

> In comparing the 30 meter vertical with the loop, the loop comes out the
> winner most of the time. It's no surprise to me. In many cases it's a good
> couple of s-units. A couple of days ago I asked a German station to compare
> the signal from each antenna and although he couldn't tell much difference, I
> could hear him much better with the loop. I'm not ready to abandon the
> vertical yet, but I once had a coax dipole in the place now occupied by the
> loop and I was quite impressed with its performance. It was my best 30 meter
> antenna at the time but I didn't run any serious comparison tests on it.

>

> I compared the 20 meter phased verticals with the 20 meter half square and
> the half square seems to win most of the time (with signals broadside to the
> half square and in line with the verticals) With signals broadside to the
> verticals and at the end of the half square, there's a tiny difference in
> favor of the verticals. This week I moved the verticals to the roof of my
> shack (a 16' X 12' building in my back yard). Basically I changed them into
> phased ground planes, each with four radials. I did this in an effort to get
> the feed point impedance to look exactly alike on each pole, and to reduce
> the ground loss. I was surprised at how little difference it made..

>

> The bottom line is that it's hard to beat the simple half square antenna. I'm
> not ready to throw in the towel with the verticals yet but I have brought
> them back to ground level now.

>

> Should I decide to put the aluminum away, I may go back to a bobtail curtain
> which I lost during one of the coastal storms, and begin to compare the
> bobtail with the half square... By the way, the bottom of the vertical wires
> of the half square are about 12 ft. off the ground.....

>

> Hope this starts you thinking of a new antenna...tee hee.....
>
> 72's ...de W3RDF, Don in North Myrtle Beach.
>
>
>
>
>

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "michael (w.m.) babineau" <babineau@nortel.ca>
Subject: [3022] Re: Anyone have W1FB QRP Notebook 1991?
Message-ID: <"20327 Thu Aug 22 09:27:47 1996"@bnr.ca>

All :

Thanks for the responses to my query about the Active CW filter from W1FBs QRP notebook. Sounds like what I'm looking for so I'll probably go ahead and order the board from Far.

Speaking of PCBs, it reminds me of a rather funny story that dates back a few years. About 8-10 years ago there was a short story in a local newspaper regarding a local hi-tech company which was consolidating some of its operations, and as a result was moving some of its printed circuit board manufacturing to a local plant. Much to the surprise of the employees, the next the day plant was picked by a local Environmental Group. It seems that the paper was not explicit enough in its article and only used the term PCB not printed circuit board. ;-)

72

Michael
VE3WMB

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: JCoote@aol.com
Subject: [3051] Re: CTHA (doughnut antenna)
Message-ID: <960822214913_391867898@emout18.mail.aol.com>

In a message dated 96-08-21 09:36:04 EDT, WJ4PRandy@aol.com writes:

<< From: WJ4PRandy@aol.com
Sender: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Reply-to: WJ4PRandy@aol.com

To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU (Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion)

Just so you folks are up on the latest in technology...

There's a new antenna on the block and its called a "Contrawound Toroidal Helical Antenna".

It consists of two helical windings, pairs wrapped with opposite pitch to each other, referred to as "contrawinding". Winding interactions slow the propogation of the electrical current within the antenna, causing it to behave as a larger, lower frequency antenna. Its patented. (naturally).

Evidence suggests the antenna's signal may ride on the earths magnetic field near or just below the surface. The energy wave is circularly polarized so the the signal is less susceptible to absorption or reflection.

In tests the antenna successfully operated at a distance of 37 miles as opposed to a monopole antennas' 10 mile range. The company claims that a 3 foot antenna can take the place of a mono-pole tower. This antenna lies flat on the ground and transmits with the same efficiency as an antenna mounted on a tower, says the company. This is because the toroidal magnetic field is equal to the linear electric field of other antennas.

This info from RCR magazine and I double checked to make sure it wasnt the April 1 edition. Lemme know if anyone builds one for the next ARS sprint!
73, Randy WJ4P

>>

Some time ago there was a "Crossed Field" or similar antenna which was surrounded by controversy, it was the shape of a large trash can or small barrel... It made several comm magazines but most agreed the design was somewhat 'optimistic' or a downright hoax. Never heard of the CFA again. I'd like to see data from anyone building the CFA or this design.

73, Jay
WB6AAM

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: torell@sicom.com (Kent Torell)

Subject: [3057] Re: CTHA (doughnut antenna)
Message-ID: <v02130503ae42c44e4bcf@[192.91.202.41]>

Jay writes:

>Some time ago there was a "Crossed Field" or similar antenna which was
>surrounded by controversy, it was the shape of a large trash can or small
>barrel... It made several comm magazines but most agreed the design was
>somewhat 'optimistic' or a downright hoax. Never heard of the CFA again.
> I'd like to see data from anyone building the CFA or this design.

>

>73, Jay

>WB6AAM

Our company got to evaluate one of these cross field antennas, made by the inventor (who is in England somewhere...) The theory that accompanied it was a lot of handwaving; it worked about as well as a small piece of wire. You *could* get it to load up over a very small bandwidth at HF. We were looking for > 1Mhz of bandwidth, so it was no good for us. Another company carefully built some models at 100 Mhz or so, and tested it on their range. They measured about -20 dB efficiency...

That's one reason why I doubt this new CTHA antenna will work either.

Kent Torell torell@sicom.com 602-483-2867 x40
SICOM 7585 E. Redfield, #202 Scottsdale, AZ 85260

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Duane Anderson <usnret@cris.com>
Subject: [3041] Re: Gate 2
Message-ID: <321CDD52.2469@concentric.net>

Try www.qrz.com this is a good one for call sign info.

72/73,
Duane, KJ7H0

KFGlynn@aol.com wrote:

>

> Hi gang,

>

> Does anyone know of a list (or site other than FTP.FCC.GOV) that lists

> available callsigns for Gate 2?
>
> Tnx for info.
>
> 73 Kevin KB2TE0

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Phil Wheeler <#pcw12@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [3053] Re: Gate 2
Message-ID: <321D13C5.76A5@ix.netcom.com>

The most current info (updated daily from FCC data base is at the ualr
ham radio page:

<http://www.ualr.edu/~hamradio/index.html>

This, and one in Tampa are both good.

Phil W7UOX

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Phil, AC6LS" <ac6ls@amsat.org>
Subject: [3006] Re: Ham and Military Manuals Sources?
Message-ID: <321C10AD.75AB@amsat.org>

Raymond Sommers wrote:

>
> On Mon, 19 Aug 1996, Dennis Edinger wrote:
>
> > had manuals for both ham and military equipment. I thought I
> > bookmarked the link, but alas...
> >
> maybe you are thinking of:
>
> Linkname: Military Equipment List
> URL:
> <http://linux.cec.army.mil/htbin/billcnt/hamradio/equipment/mi.htm>
>

Went and took alook at the site, and found out I was into QRP and didn't
even know it!!!

AN/PRC-77 Transceiver, 30-76MHz, 920 chan,
50kHz spacing, FM, manpack or vehicular, 1-2w,
12VDC from BA-4386 mil-type battery, major
component: RT-841/PRC-77

72 de PHil

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: kimitsuka_glen <glenk@dsg.tandem.com>
Subject: [3037] RE:Hey Everybody -- Gate 2 opens Sept 23
Message-ID: <9608222149.AA18215@sid1.dsg.tandem.com>

Wow, it's time to print out those 610V's.

Do you think that Sept 23 is the post marked date or
could we send on the Friday, 21th before to get in
as early as possible? I didn't see anything in this
regard in the FCC Vanity call information docs.

Glen KM6WR

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Chris J. Cartwright - ELF" <dsc3cjc@imc220.med.navy.mil>
Subject: [3016] Re: keyers
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608221047.A2034-01000000@imc220>

On Wed, 21 Aug 1996, Brad Mitchell wrote:

> I will say this one more time .. at least.
> If you are right handed, try iambic with the left.
> If you are left, try it with the right.
> It works. You must of course switch the dit and
> dah, but once you have done that , it works.
>

I'll second this, I *have* to get to 13WPM this year or I'll waste the
nice CSC they "gave" for elements 3B and 4A, anyway after practicing with a
straight key for a while, my right arm got tired so I figured I just do
left handed for a while (couldn't be any worse). What a difference! I
wasn't the only one who knew what I was sending anymore! So now I'm trying
left hand only, that way I don't have to put the pencil down between RX/TX :)
Have to get a paddle and keyer and see if the change is as dramatic.

```
-- Christopher Cartwright, Tech. Engineer    | ...our chief weapons are fear,  
-- Voice 301.295.0809      N3XRV             | fear and surprise, and nice  
-- Mail dsc3cjc@imc220.med.navy.mil         | red uniforms, oh damn!!  
--      ccart@erols.com           |      -- Monty Python
```

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)
Subject: [3023] Re: Nobody taught me
Message-ID: <199608221719.RAA03303@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

Gang,

This group is great. No matter how many times a topic comes up someone comes up with something else to think about.

Scott, NF3I's comment on left-handed drivers!! Never thought of that one. :-)

I think it was Ed Campbell, K5SBR, who showed me a long time ago how to use the Brown Brothers and hold a pen in the same hand. I personally don't have the talent or the need to send and write at the same time. When I'm receiving I'm writing and when I'm sending I'm not writing, so having the pen in the same hand as I'm sending isn't a problem. That way I don't have to keep picking it up and putting it down, which is a waste of time and energy.

I think it's Smitty, NA5K, that uses a small tape-recorder to note log information for mobile CW operation so that he is not distracted trying to write and drive at the same time.

The ideas keep on coming.

dit dit

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com

K5FO TMPS 1995 Qs=222 States=46 ConfirmedQs=127 DX=04 (0.95W)

K5FO TMPS 1996 Qs=089 States=34 ConfirmedQs=58 DX=04 (0.95W)

40M 49wkd/49cfmd - 30M 48wkd/48cfmd - 20M 50wkd/50cfmd (0.95W)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: facmsa@facilities.buffalo.edu (Adams, Mark S.)

Subject: [3007] RE: QRP backpacking

Message-ID: <1996Aug22.074600.1483.13596@facilities.buffalo.edu>

Hi Gang,

Just a simple rule, ala Murphy, that I have discovered from portable operations: You will need 1.1X as much feedline as you brought along to put your antenna where it ought to be.

It has happened to me every time!

Mark

N2VPK Member of the Buffalo QRP Connection

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996

From: "MIKE HERR" <mike_herr@imdgw.chinalake.navy.mil>

Subject: [3016] Re: QRP backpacking

Message-ID: <n1371420827.46221@imdgw.chinalake.navy.mil>

Joel,

On a backpacking antenna...

>Seems=A0like=A0everyone=A0is=A0going=A0QRP=A0backpacking...

>For=A0backpacking=A0it=A0would=A0seem=A0that=A0a=A0dipole,=A0cut=A0for=
=A0the=A0

>frequency=A0I=A0want...though=A0I=A0will=A0have=A0to=A0carry=A0about=A0.5=
=A0

>wavelength=A0of=A0coax...

The dipole is the way to go, no doubt. Works well, simple to use and =
"never fail". However, no reason for needing 0.5 wavelength of coax. Use =
what you need and try RG-174. Small and light weight. Sure, it is high =
loss but at 7 mhz is sooo small, not worth the time to calculate it.

>Not=A0being=A0very=A0good=A0with=A0a=A0sling=A0shot=A0and=A0not=A0plannin=
g=A0on=A0

>carrying=A0bow...

Personally, I never use a bow or slingshot. I tie a rock on the end of =
the string and swing it over the trees. Again, simple and effective.

>One=A0last=A0question:=A0baluns.=A0I=A0don't=A0want=A0to=A0pack=A0some=
=A0commerical=A0>balun=A0and =

maybe=A0I=A0don't=A0need=A0one,=A0please=A0comment.

Naw, leave the balun at home (or at the store!). Overall, just cut the = dipole for the approx frequency, put it up as high as and clear as you = can and have fun. If you can only get it 15 feet up and still in some = trees, don't worry, it will still work!

72

Mike WA6ARA=A0

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: jbartac@max.state.ia.us (jbartac)
Subject: [3018] Re: QRP backpacking
Message-ID: <321C9E41.D33@max.state.ia.us>

I used to operate portable many years ago with an HW-7 (modified by adding IC doubly balanced mixer and MFJ audio filter), and I used a simple 20 meter coax-fed dipole. The feeder was a 16 foot hunk of RG-58 I happened to have, so I could not hope to throw it way up in a tree, or the PL-259 connector would have been dangling in mid-air!

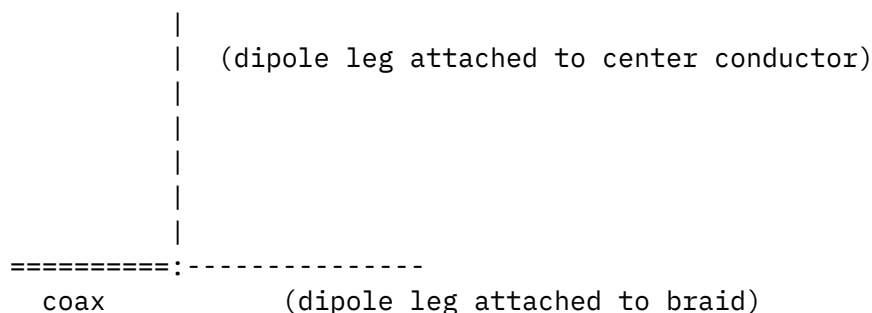
I had great success by throwing a plumbing pipe elbow (watch out where it comes down) over a tree limb and I pulled up just the end of the dipole which was connected to the coax center conductor. The other end of the dipole hung sort of horizontal or slightly slanted downwards, maybe only 4 or 5 feet above the ground. I could run the short coax to my card table or picnic table operating position.

This configuration is a lot like a ground plane with only 1 radial, but I got good S-4 to S-7 reports with it.

I had great fun while on vacation in Florida at my Dad-in-law's orange grove, with rig on a lawn chair, me in another lawn chair, and the antenna center insulator about 3 feet off the ground. Worked Texas, Michigan, Illinois, etc. with ease.

BTW, it made no difference which way the "radial" was pointing. During a QSO I would move it around, but other station sounded the same, and my sig did nto change for him either.

Idea for lightweight backpacking: use less coax to the dipole and hang it like this -



72,
Jerry KD0CA <><

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Ed Manuel" <n5em-qrp@msn.com>
Subject: [3035] RE: QRP backpacking
Message-ID: <UPMAIL06.199608222038320610@msn.com>

Joel,

You have it right on the money. Dipole, cut for right frequency, fed with RG-174 coax cut to an appropriate length (not excessive unused coax coiled up in the tent!).

I don't use sling shot or bow and arrow. Just find something in your pack that is about 3 or 4 oz. (I typically use a Swiss army knife), attach to some smooth, braided cord (black stuff sold by Wireman and Radio Adventures, 3/32" diameter, super strong, nice and smooth) and hurl it over the nearest support. There is a technique.

Lay out the cord in front of you so it will pay out without a hitch. Ever use the figure 8 lay for rope? Take your weighted end, and start it rotating. Now let me describe as for a right handed person. Use right hand. Cord forms a circle from back, over your head, down in front. Use as much cord as you can without it actually hitting the ground at the bottom of the circle.

After attaining a substantial escape velocity, release as the weight comes up from behind, at the point that it is still traveling nearly up, about 30 to 40 degrees before the top of the arc.

The weight should continue the climb straight up and arcing over the tree in front of you.

With a little practice, you can throw it over a 40 or 50 ft. tree first time. Of course, if you have TWO trees, about 70 ft. apart, the dipole goes up as a

flat top with only an additional 10 minutes of effort. So, sloper, inverted Vee, or flat top is a function of how many supports you have and where they are with respect to your tent.

The whole antenna system (dipole, feedline, two pieces of support cord about 60 to 80 ft. long) will fit in a gallon size baggie.

Did I mention that the free end of the cord (one not attached to the swiss army knife) should be tied securely to something on the ground, maybe your foot? :-)

Another way to store it is a kite string holder. They are heavier than a baggie, though.

Maybe we should have an antenna launching contest at Dayton? Height attained divided by the number of minutes and weight of launching system. Answer expressed in ft. per minute per oz. That has a nice QRP-L ring to it, don't you think?

72

Ed, N5EM

n5em-qrp@msn.com

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Craig LaBarge <74740.3166@CompuServe.COM>
Subject: [3042] Re: QRP backpacking
Message-ID: <960822222111_74740.3166_EHB112-1@CompuServe.COM>

Joel, WA1QVM wrote:

>For backpacking it would seem that a dipole, cut for the frequency I want
>to use and 50-70 ohm coax would appear to be the best way to go, even
>though I will have to carry about .5 wavelength of coax.

My recommendation would be a dipole fed with a reasonable length of RG-174 miniature coax. The loss isn't too bad for 10MHz and below if you keep the length to about 30-35 feet or so. Forget the balun and, while you're at it, you can forget the end insulators too. Just create a loop on the end (and secure with some "Goop") to tie the line to. For a center insulator, I use a 1.5 square inch piece of fiberglass perf-board. (Use some more "Goop" to seal the connections and the coax). For wire, I like regular ol' Radio Shack #22 stranded hookup wire (with black insulation -- just about invisible up in the trees).

For launching, I generally use a golf ball. I just tape the line to it with

some electrical tape and give it the 'ol heave-ho. If I have two decent trees, I go for the usual dipole configuration. Otherwise, I opt for an inverted vee, trying to get the center up about 25 feet or so.

The whole dipole fits nicely in a little zip-lock bag for storage. This setup has worked out great for me for several years now. My 30 meter and 40 meter dipoles are 3 years old and still going strong after numerous camping trips and field contests.

73, Craig WB3GCK

WB3GCK TMPS 1996 Qs=63 States=24 Confirmed=03 DX=08
AL CT DC DE FL GA IA IN KY KS MA MI MN MO MS NC NH NJ NY OH PA RI SC TN WI
CM6 EA9 FG HG5 LZ1 TI4 VE YT7

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Phil Wheeler <#pcw12@ix.netcom.com>
Subject: [3053] Re: QRP backpacking
Message-ID: <321D117A.2BBD@ix.netcom.com>

I'm partial to a hockey puck with a hole near one end for antenna launching.

phil w7uox

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: kimitsuka_glen <glenk@dsg.tandem.com>
Subject: [3039] Re: Removing a surface mount CPU?
Message-ID: <9608222218.AA18451@sid1.dsg.tandem.com>

Larry,

Sacrifice the part.

Snip the leads off and then remove the remains individually.

Or, lift each lead individually as you heat the solder pad for that lead.

The quality of the MB determines how well the pads can take heat but with a temp controlled solder station and proper tip, you should have great results.

Good luck, Glen.

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Chris J. Cartwright - ELF" <dsc3cjc@imc220.med.navy.mil>
Subject: [3047] Re: Removing a surface mount CPU?
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608222043.A29188-0100000@imc220>

On Thu, 22 Aug 1996, Larry V East wrote:

> Anyone have any words of wisdom on removing a surface mount i486 CPU without
> mutilating the PC board? (Other than like mating porcupines -- veeeerry

Unless you have access to a surface mount repair station (which if you did you wouldn't be asking) you can either find someone who does, buy one, or read the following horror story that just might get the job done.

I have to file this one as, been there, done that, got the blisters to prove it! You may not like what I'm about to tell you, and this may be a little to graphic for the engineering purists out there, but I've done it and I know it works. That said, here we go...

Get an exacto knife with a new blade and carefully run it over the tops of the pins near where they enter the body of the carrier. The knife will be horizontal and you'll press against the side of the chip. You just want to score the pins so don't use more pressure than you need to. Just keep scoring them until you cut through that set (42 in your case) of pins. Now rinse, lather and repeat... move around and do the other three sides. Once all the leads are cut through you need to go around the chip and pry them slightly away from the body to make sure they are loose. Move them "too" much and you'll lift the trace (not a good thing) so be extra careful. Once that's done invert the board and that new conversation starter should fall off the board. If not it may have a sticky pad or glue on it that held it there during soldering, a good blast with the hair dryer will sometimes loosen this up.

With just the pins sitting there you can now remove them with a low-low-low wattage GROUNDED soldering iron. In most cases the "pin" will stick to the iron once the solder melts due to surface tension. Anyone who has ever tried to solder down a surface mount cap or resistor knows what I'm talking about. Ok, pins out of the way, you want to make sure each pad is tinned with solder, now tin all the pins on the socket. Set the socket in place, line everything up, and "tack" two pins on opposite corners of the socket and continue around until all the pins are nailed down. There you go! Simple as that!

Personally, I'd donate the board to some less fortunate soul and get a new mother board that can take your chip and ram. If your not looking for anything too whiz-bang you should be able to pick one up (without a CPU) for \$50-100, maybe less if you ask around somewhere they're doing some

pentium upgrades.

-best of luck,

-- Christopher Cartwright, Tech. Engineer		...our chief weapons are fear,
-- Voice 301.295.0809 N3XRV		fear and surprise, and nice
-- Mail dsc3cjc@imc220.med.navy.mil		red uniforms, oh damn!!
-- ccart@erols.com		-- Monty Python

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: wb8ygg@juno.com (Bradley S. Mitchell)
Subject: [3049] Re: Removing a surface mount CPU?
Message-ID: <19960821.212051.7903.1.WB8YGG@juno.com>

I haven't done this, but my friend, a very well versed technician was "in the field" without our facilities when he needed to change a 100 pin Quad Flat pack..

He gathered pieces of aluminum, (from some cans) .. and surrounded the part to change. The he took the Heat gun, and heated the chip till it reflowed the solder on all pads.

The he simply pulled the part out with a pair of tweezers.

This is close to the way it's really done , minus a few things , but be careful if you do it.. boards, and or solder need ventilation!

I'd buy a new mother board myself.
73 Brad Wb8YGG

p.s. make sure it's socketed, you'llbe upgrading in a few weeks!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Chris J. Cartwright - ELF" <dsc3cjc@imc220.med.navy.mil>
Subject: [3027] Re: report: village radio- AM QRP - \$ 18
Message-ID: <Pine.3.89.9608221311.A2034-0100000@imc220>

On Thu, 22 Aug 1996, frank paxton iii wrote:

> hi !

> some of you may have seen a note reporting the availability of Viet Nam
> era 'qrp' AM transceivers made by Hallicrafters for the US Military...

> work. anyone knowing if there is an AM calling freq on 6m please

Thanks for the info, gonna' get me some! The ARRL repeater directory
lists 50.400 as the "AM Calling Frequency" and 50.300 to 50.600 as "all
modes". I still have an old HT-40 that will do about 75 watts AM on 6M.
Who knows I might have some use for it now :)

73's

-- Christopher Cartwright, Tech. Engineer		...our chief weapons are fear,
-- Voice 301.295.0809 N3XRV		fear and surprise, and nice
-- Mail dsc3cjc@imc220.med.navy.mil		red uniforms, oh damn!!
-- ccart@erols.com		-- Monty Python

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: wk9t@juno.com (Rod Logsdon)
Subject: [3015] Re: Thumb + Dit Vs Thumb = Dah
Message-ID: <19960822.095919.10230.0.wk9t@juno.com>

On Thu, 22 Aug 1996 09:25:45 -0400 Bob Marsh <bmarsh@hicom.net> writes:
>Hi all,
>
>Someone in a recent post on Iambic keyers made an interesting comment.
> He
>referred to using the thumb for the "dah". When I got my first keyer,
>I
>wired the paddles up that way, and have been doing it like that ever
>since.
>The guys in my radio club are constantly busting me about "reverse
>paddles"
>(nyuk, nyuk!)
>
>Apparently, the "correct" way is for the thumb to do the "dits" and
>the
>finger the "dahs". (this was also in the documentation with the paddles
>which
>I read about a year after I wired the sucker up!)
>
>Just out of curiosity, maybe we should do a survey to see how others
>do it.

>72/73 de Bob/KB2SGM

>(Are we having fun yet?)

>

>

I use the thumb for "dits" but I guess whatever works for you is ok!
(I can already feel the flames from the purist's.)

Rod Logsdon WK9T

wk9t@juno.com

QRP-L # 616, ARS #153

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996

From: adams@chuck.dallas.sgi.com (chuck adams)

Subject: [3022] Re: Thumb + Dit Vs Thumb = Dah

Message-ID: <199608221706.RAA03222@chuck.dallas.sgi.com>

OK Bobby you opened the door you gonna get it now!!! :-)

I'll put together the paddle/keyer survey and hope to have it by Sunday. Everyone send me email on what you wanna know about how the other guy does keying, mode preferences, paddles owned, etc. We'll cut down on qrp-l traffic by doing it all at once and hope that we do not drag it out too long. I'll make it much shorter than the rig survey. It's a smaller topic.

On email and this list it is relatively easy to do surveys on our money, time, bands, number of rigs, and all kinds of things that have numbers associated with them. But on paddles it is going to be difficult to do the areas that I tend to call "religion". The politically correct areas or sensitive areas of our lives such as religion and politics and personal bickering we like to keep off this group even though it's a election year. Post those topics to a more apropos group, not qrp-l. When teaching the topic of UNIX editors such as ed, sed, vi, emacs, and others I like tell the students that editors and word processors are like talking about religion. Everyone usually likes the very first one they used or are introduced to the best, but not always. Everyone has their favorite editor or word processor and their own beliefs and you have to respect that and go on. There is no way that I can change your feelings and I don't want to. We use software and hardware as tools to do a job or series of jobs. It's going to be the same thing with keyers and paddles. It's a personal preference thing. We can measure receiver sensitivity, IMD, and all that stuff but we have difficulty measuring why you prefer one paddle over another.

That'll drive you crazy - the alignment of the first two paragraphs.
:-)

Having done CW operation all of my ham life I can relate to the problems of conveying to others the details of just how you do things without sitting down and showing you. That's why English and communication skills are important in postings on the internet. Without visual aids (not everyone has Netscape and/or Mosaic and can surf) it is difficult to get all the details across to another person. Some of you probably have someone send you email complaining about spelling, uppercase vs. lower case, grammar, etc. It's because it requires a set of skills that are increasingly becoming more important. Your English teachers were right. :-) Look how important it is in your job and how important it is in how others perceive you. It was like a lawyer friend of mine was just telling me how it appalled him to read postings by engineering types that don't care about English. The only measure most of us will ever have of a lot of people on the internet is how they write and do email and postings. Most likely most of us will unfortunately never meet face to face. Same as on the air, but we can still be friends and relate via all the mediums available.

All the majority of this group is asking for from postings is that you do your best to not do considerable damage to the English language. Well Rev. George and my friends in the UK we like to call it English. :-) I know you guys have meetings and talk about our writing skills. :-) You don't fool us one bit.....

I have to tell you this one story of how I learned my English lesson. I had been in college a few months into my Freshman year and decided that I'd write a quick letter to my Senior English teacher describing how things were going. A week after I sent her the letter she returned it to me marked in red pen detailing all the errors that I had made!! A very humbling experience. VERY. I digress again. Sorry.

One of the better books that I have in my library is on antennas. It was done by a late friend of mine, John Haerle WB5IIR, and it was written up from some presentations that he did over the air on a weekly net for Doctors. There is not a single illustration in the entire book!! Not a one. Try that sometime. So you can use words to do pictures.

This group is the best when it comes to writing stuff. I've had guys, like Paul and others, make us laugh and reach out and touch us just with words. That's talent gang, pure and simple. I think it was Jeff in HI on another group write up a lengthy story about a ship going down on his radio watch and the radio operator on

board that really really brought tears to the eyes and ran chills up and down the spine when reading it. There wasn't a dry eye in the house.

Let's take a quick look at the difficulty of teaching via email. Just take for instance the difference between mode A and mode B Iambic timing for the Curtis Chip 8044ABM. It requires moves of the fingers and thumb timed down to the millisecond or so intervals on engaging and releasing the paddles at higher speeds and even at the slow speeds. I have been thinking about some notation of timing, kinda like a musical score but without a intricate scheme so that you can enter it on a keyboard. and it still looks like it has to be a timing diagram for digital logic, which is exactly what it is since the keyer is a logical state device device.

For instance let's take some letters and send them. For the right handed paddle people, let's use the following notation:

- l - left paddle lightly touched for a short period (the thumb)
- L - left paddle held down for a longer time period (the thumb)
- r - right paddle lightly touched for a short period (the first finger)
- R - right paddle held down for a longer time period (the first finger)

Now I just thought of the timing and let's try it out on you guys and gals.

OK, for Iambic Mode B (or A), I can send every letter but P and X with one or two motions. I show you a few and it's left as an exercise for the student to show the remaining critters. Using the patented Adams Iambic Motion Notation, AIM'ng. :-). You heard it here first. Think I should write it up for QST? Using a 1:1:3 timing scheme for interelement spacing, dit, and dah respectively (there is not such thing as a dot and a dash in Morse). Now since I just thought this up and haven't sat down for an hour with paddle in hand and keyer at FIVE or lower words per minute to get the EXACT timing this will come later, so this is the beta version.

- A - lr (we need some notation on max/min contact times) 1:1
- B - rL 1:5 where this notation may mean 1 or less units followed by 5 for the dit side, but you have to play to see when to start the 5
- C - RL 7:8 and here is where we need to figure a notation on times on pauses in between. Draw and diagram the code and look at the details :-)
- D - rL
- E - l
- F - Lr
- G - rL

H - L
...
P - 1R1
...

And I think it is difficult for a lot of people to learn Iambic keying. I know that it took me some time to switch from the old Vibroplex Presentation Model bug to the Brown Brothers Iambic paddle with the old Hallicrafters T0 keyer, but I'm glad I did. I couldn't go back without a fight. :-)

I smiled when we got into the discussion on the group about just how you "tie-down" your paddle to the desk to keep it from moving across the surface. If you are "hitting" the paddle that hard then (IMHO) you are hitting the paddle(s) too hard. You will never ever get any speed doing it that way. I like my paddles set to the lightest touch possible. I kid people that a Texas Mesquito could fly into the thing and the paddle would make contact. :-) And they aren't that big in TX. The reason for the light touch is speed. Talk to the people who do more than 35 wpm without a keyboard. Using a larger force requires more time, mainly in the area of getting things stopped. An MD might give us some of the physics of muscle control and stuff on this topic (Rick?). Write a book on it probably. A Nobel Prize research topic..... I'd like people like Dub WA5YFY, a CW expert and ex-telegrapher, to comment and let us know if I'm wrong. I never believe that I know everything. I'm learning just like everyone else. And if I'm doing something wrong I wanna know.

What we need is a method to measure accurately and without an expensive sensor the pressure that you require to use your paddles at your favorite setting. Also a methodology to measure the range of pressures for the lightest and heaviest settings that a manufacturer has for each model of paddle they make. Ideas wanted in this area. Again it's a sensitive topic to some for no apparant reason as to why high pressure is better than low. It's personal.

OK, just a few thoughts on the topic as usual. Let us know what you think. The above are my opinions and they may not be popular or may get on your nerves. I apologize if it does. Again I am no expert.

Geez, I do get long winded. :-) There goes my lunch hour.....

dit dit es enjoy

Chuck Adams (K5FO CP-60) adams@sgi.com

K5FO TMPS 1995 Qs=222 States=46 ConfirmedQs=127 DX=04 (0.95W)

K5FO TMPS 1996 Qs=089 States=34 ConfirmedQs=58 DX=04 (0.95W)

40M 49wkd/49cfmd - 30M 48wkd/48cfmd - 20M 50wkd/50cfmd (0.95W)

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: rhight@primenet.com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: [3028] Re: Thumb + Dit Vs Thumb = Dah
Message-ID: <199608221804.LAA16974@primenet.com>

At 09:25 AM 8/22/96 -0400, Bob Marsh wrote:

>Hi all,

>

>Someone in a recent post on Iambic keyers made an interesting comment. He
>referred to using the thumb for the "dah". When I got my first keyer, I
>wired the paddles up that way, and have been doing it like that ever since.
>The guys in my radio club are constantly busting me about "reverse paddles"
>(nyuk, nyuk!) I even built an adaptor cable to reverse the paddles in the
>club station!

>

>Apparently, the "correct" way is for the thumb to do the "dits" and the
>finger the "dahs". (this was also in the documentation with the paddles which
>I read about a year after I wired the sucker up!)

> (snip)

Wow! Validation! I get a lot of heat from ham friends because I too use
the thumb for the "dah". Never ever tried a bug, and when I moved from the
straight key to a paddle this way just seemed more natural. I can do it the
"normal" way, but it just doesn't feel right.

A ham friend was visiting one time and gave me a lot of grief...said he
couldn't use my paddle to make a qso to his home state. Since I had a cover
on the Bencher, I just flipped it upside down and had him try it. No more
comments from him.

Per some advice from Tony, N7BG who is a high speed CW op, I set the gap for
the lightest possible touch, then bent the paddle arms toward the center so
the paddles are only abt 4mm apart. Very smooth, and virtually no pressure
required. Bring on the mosquitos, Chuck. The unit never moves on the
table, since there is no banging.

I just picked up a Brown Bros Model CTL combo key, and notice that there is
no way to make that sort of adjustment...paddle separation is fixed.
Bummer. I guess it will be relegated to slower speeds, or I'll just use the
straight key side.

Anyway, whatever works is the "correct" way.

Keep it up...some nice postings are coming up on this subject.

72/73, de Roger AA7QY

NorCal 1099 CoQRP 176 QRP-L 62 G-QRP 9081 ARCI 8946 NE-QRP 383

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996

From: Ken Freedman <n1qqvken@iconn.net>

Subject: [3030] Re: Thumb + Dit Vs Thumb = Dah

Message-ID: <31A602BD.B39@iconn.net>

Hello All.

Like Bob, I learned the paddles "backwards" too, and have taken some ribbing for it, particularly at Field Day. Curiously enough, without having consciously tried to train myself to do it, I can use a set of paddles wired the other (right??) way with my left hand. (I am right handed) I wonder if others out there have had the same experience, and if some of the boys and girls who learned the "right" way can operate a "backward" set of paddles with their "other" hand, whichever hand that may be. This may be the most confusing paragraph I have ever written!

In the interest of science, I would like to see the results of such a series of experiments. So, Bob, here's the first entry for your survey.

73, Ken

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996

From: "Paul R. Valko" <prvalko@Oakland.edu>

Subject: [3010] Re: Thumb + Dit Vs Thumb = Dah <humor> <ObQRP, too>

Message-ID: <Pine.OSF.3.91.960822093716.22085B-100000@saturn.acs.oakland.edu>

Bob's bassackwards paddle made me think for a fraction of a second over how thumb = dit came to be the defacto standard.

It is almost too funny that I noticed my MFJ ultra memory keyer-thingy has a mode that allows you to select which paddle sends dits or dahs.

Now, I've made a QSO with one, but aren't ALL "bugs" operated so that the thumb=dit? Something to do with a weight and a spring banging back and forth.

I think so. So I'll jump to the conclusion that because mechanical bugs were the only game in town for so long, that is why electronic keyers mimic them.

So now we step out of the box and ponder how it came to be that BUGS were designed that way? Any of you Vibroplex collectors wanna take a stab at it?

73! =paul= wb8zjl
Collector of Ten*Tecs and other fine plastics

ObQRP : Made the annual Summer 160M QSO last night just to see how the band sounded with summer storms rolling across the fruited plain. I actually worked a QRO station in MD. The ol' ZjL tossed him a 569 and he replied with a 549 thereby once again documenting the old, "first liar never wins" rule.

From owner-qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Tim Pettibone <tpettibo@nmsu.edu>
Subject: [3023] Re: Thumb = dit vs Thumb = Dah
Message-ID: <199608221710.LAA11131@NMSU.Edu>

Floyd and Bob et. al.:

I've posted this info a couple of times but the recent discussion on swapping paddle sides brings it up again. I'm right handed, and send dahs with my 1st finger (not thumb). In Alaska I slipped on the ice and broke my right wrist. Had a huge cast on it (twice) for over 12 weeks. Finally reversed the paddles (a simple 2-button operation on the CMOS II keyer) and found that I could send with my left hand almost as good as my right. And right up into the 30+ wpm area. Tried to use the paddle with normal configuration and it about drove me crazy. I fell off my bike here in NM a couple of years ago and went thru the same routine (broken right wrist etc.) This time I tried a little harder and found that it took me about 10 minutes to get pretty proficient with thumb dahs and 1st finger dits. Can't get up into the 30s but do pretty well. Although reversing for the left hand is a bit easier, it all seems to just take a little practice. The human body and mind connection is an amazing thing!

Tim AB50U
QRP-L # 73

p.s. I'm trying real hard not to fall down as much!

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: "Harvey D. D. Hetland" <HDHETLAND@paccd.cc.ca.us>
Subject: [3033] Re: Thumb = dit vs Thumb = Dah
Message-ID: <11B92A140EF@manage.paccd.cc.ca.us>

Like Tim, AB50U, I am right handed, but I swapped the paddles and I send left handed on a keyer. I have never used a keyer right handed. I was late in switching to a keyer from a bug, and I did not want to give up the ability to use the bug. I also remembered watching Phil, N6ZZ (ex-K9ELT, ex-W6DQX) operate at the UCLA club station, W6YRA. He used one hand for keying and the other for logging and dup sheets. Therefore, it only seemed natural that I would emulate Phil and learn to use the "other" hand for sending. As Tim noted, with the paddles swapped it is not hard to pickup, even when learning a keyer for the first time. Today I still use both a bug and a keyer. I use the right hand for the bug and the left hand for the keyer. I like the bug for ragchewing and the keyer with memory for contests. Not being a big, serious contesteer I do the logging and dup sheet with the right hand ... no computer ... and none of those pregnant pauses characteristic of those that log on a computer, hi.

73, Harvey, N6MM

TMPS 96: QSOs=262, WAS=49, DXCC=044 OHR 400, dipole/loop/wire beam
States needed: DE
DXCC: C2 JW KH6 JA KL7 A3 W 5W VE PJ2 T30 VK9N ZL FK8 OH OA VK FG LU
C6A XE LA ZF 5N C0 CY0 PY V7 HC V6 T32 KC6 P4 TI ZK1(so) UA0
KH8 ZP OZ ZK2 CE HI HK0 KH4

From owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU Thu Aug 22 23:14:48 1996
From: Roy Boggs <rboggs@pcc-uky.campus.mci.net>
Subject: [3036] RE: Thumb/Finger Dit-Dah; the Precise Answer
Message-ID: <2.2.32.19960822214231.0068dccc@pcc-uky.campus.mci.net>

For newcomers to cw and the list, if you are terribly worried about which digit to use while keying on iambic paddles, let me make you feel a little better for the moment. When I first got interested in cw and got my first paddles (Bencher), I searched the world over for the answer to the question of "which side is supposed to do what?" I called everyone I knew, read every book and magazine I had and still no definitive answer; responses were exactly 50/50. I said "Lordy mercy, this is like puttin' socks on a rooster". I finally decided I knew exactly as much as anybody else.

I use my thumb for dahs and finger for dits and yet to have a test or inspection by the FCC, CIA, ARRL, NAACP, or anybody. I don't care if it's wrong, and furthermore don't care what old timers used to do on bugs. To this day I have never used a 'bug'; not sure I want to either since about 85% of these Class Insecta I hear are like listening to Heavy Metal music to me (read incomprehensible). The other 15% are simply beautiful. Similar scenario with straight keys.

The next question of how to hold the paddles still on the table while u slam away, to which a lot of valuable space on this list has addressed: Use the TIPS of your forefinger and thumb at the top tip of the plexiglass triangles and I guarantee that you can set the Benchers on toothpicks and they won't move one pico-foot (pF). Make a loose fist (no pun) and rest the little finger side of your hand on the desk, fully relaxed. Set the contacts with a sheet of paper and forget all that rubber pad nonsense and just sit there oscillating the epidermis of each digit (whichever you learned on... who gives a wild hoot?) and you can send cw forever without needing Gatorade, headband and 300cfm of air conditioning.

That should clear things up forever. I will be following up to make sure everyone is using the correct method to dih-dah. Who was is that said "Jocularly" all the time?..somebody on M.A.S.H I think.

Good Luck, and if you need any more advice, it's free. 72,

de KE4KDT

Norcal ARCI QRP-L ARRL

Beautiful Prestonsburg, KY

p.s. Don't waste ur money on a 40-9er; put \$25 more with it and get an SWL40.